

# CS 103 Unit 9 – Objects, Structs, and Strings

Mark Redekopp

# OBJECTS

# Types and Instances

- A **type** indicates how much memory will be required, what the bits mean (i.e. data vs. address), and what operations can be performed
  - **int** = 32-bits representing only integer values and supporting +, -, \*, /, =, ==, <, >, etc.
  - **char\*** = 32-bit representing an address and supporting \* (dereference), &, +, - (but not multiply and divide)
  - Types are like **blueprints** for what & how to make a particular 'thing'
- A **variable** or **object** is an actual instantiation (allocation of memory) for one of these types
  - `int x, double z, char *str;`

# Abstract Data Types

- Often times we want to represent abstract things (beyond an integer, character, or double)
  - Examples:
    - A pixel, a circle, a student
- Often these abstract types can be represented as a collection of integers, character arrays/strings, etc.
  - A pixel (with R,G,B value)
  - A circle (center\_x, center\_y, radius)
  - A student (name, ID, major)
- Objects (realized as '**structs**' in C and later '**classes**' in C++) allow us to aggregate different type variables together to represent a larger 'thing' as well as supporting operations on that 'thing'
  - Can reference the collection with a single name (pixelA, student1)
  - Can access individual components (pixelA.red, student1.id)

# Objects

- An object is a group of data + functions
- Objects contain:
  - Data members
    - Data needed to model the object and track its state/operation (just like structs)
  - Methods/Functions
    - Code that operates on the object, modifies it, etc.
- Example: Deck of cards
  - Data members:
    - Array of 52 entries (one for each card) indicating their ordering
    - Top index
  - Methods/Functions
    - Deck.Shuffle(), Deck.Cut(), Deck.Deal()

# Structs vs. Classes

- **Structs** (originated in the C language) are the predecessors of **classes** (C++ language)
  - Though **structs** are still valid in C++
- **Classes** form the basis of 'object-oriented' programming in the C++ language
- Both are simply a way of grouping related **data** together and related **operations** (**functions** or **methods**) to model some 'object'
- The majority of the following discussion applies both to **structs** and **classes** equally so pay attention now to make next lecture easier.

# Object-Oriented Programming

- Model the application/software as a set of objects that interact with each other
- Objects fuse **data** (i.e. variables) and **functions** (a.k.a methods) that operate on that data into one item (i.e. object)
  - Like structs but now with associated functions/methods
- Objects become the primary method of encapsulation and abstraction
  - Encapsulation
    - Place data and code that operates on that data together into one unit
    - Hiding of data and implementation details (i.e. make software modular)
    - Only expose a well-defined interface to anyone wanting to use our object
  - Abstraction
    - How we decompose the problem and think about our design rather than the actual code

# C++ STRINGS



# C Strings

- In C, strings are:
  - Character arrays (`char mystring[80]`)
  - Terminated with a NULL character
  - Passed by reference/pointer (`char *`) to functions
  - Require care when making copies
    - Shallow (only copying the pointer) vs.  
Deep (copying the entire array of characters)
  - Processed using C String library (`<cstring>`)

# String Function/Library (cstring)

- `int strlen(char *dest)`
- `int strcmp(char *str1, char *str2);`
  - Return 0 if equal, >0 if first non-equal char in str1 is alphanumerically larger, <0 otherwise
- `char *strcpy(char *dest, char *src);`
  - `strncpy(char *dest, char *src, int n);`
  - Maximum of n characters copied
- `char *strcat(char *dest, char *src);`
  - `strncat(char *dest, char *src, int n);`
  - Maximum of n characters concatenated plus a NULL
- `char *strchr(char *str, char c);`
  - Finds first occurrence of character 'c' in str returning a pointer to that character or NULL if the character is not found

**In C, we have to pass the C-String as an argument for the function to operate on it**

```
#include <cstring>
using namespace std;

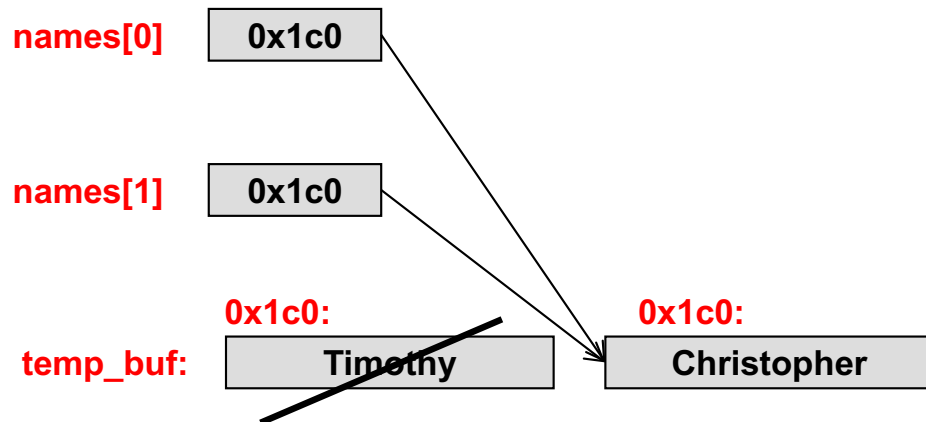
int main() {
    char temp_buf[5];
    char str[] = "Too much";

    strcpy(temp_buf, str); // bad
    strncpy(temp_buf, str, 4);
    temp_buf[4] = '\\0';

    return 0; }
```

# Copying Strings/Character Arrays in C

- How to copy a C-string?
- Can we just use the assignment operator, '=', with character arrays?
- No, must allocate new storage



```
#include <iostream>
#include <cstring>
using namespace std;

// store 10 user names of up to 80 chars
// names type is still char **
char *names[10];

int main()
{
    char temp_buf[100];

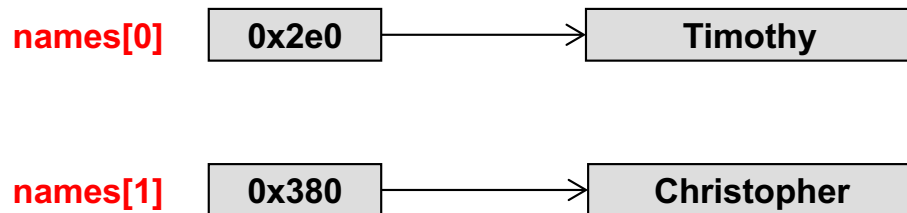
    cin >> temp_buf; // user enters "Timothy"
    names[0] = temp_buf;

    cin >> temp_buf; // user enters "Christopher"
    names[1] = temp_buf;

    return 0;
}
```

# Copying Strings/Character Arrays in C

- No, must allocate new storage



```
#include <iostream>
#include <cstring>
using namespace std;

// store 10 user names of up to 80 chars
// names type is still char **
char *names[10];

int main()
{
    char temp_buf[100];

    cin >> temp_buf; // user enters "Timothy"
    names[0] = new char[strlen(temp_buf)+1];
    strcpy(names[0], temp_buf);

    cin >> temp_buf; // user enters "Christopher"
    names[1] = new char[strlen(temp_buf)+1];
    strcpy(names[1], temp_buf);

    return 0;
}
```

# C++ Strings

- So you don't like remembering all these details?
  - You can do it! Don't give up.
- C++ provides a 'string' class that **abstracts** all those worrisome details and **encapsulates** all the code to actually handle:
  - Memory allocation and sizing
  - Deep copy
  - etc.

# Object Syntax Overview

- You've already used objects
  - ifstream
  - string
- Can initialize at declaration by passing initial value in ( )
  - Known as a constructor
- Use the dot operator to call an operation (function) on an object or access a data value
- Some special operators can be used on certain object types (+, -, [], etc.) but you have to look them up

```
#include <iostream>
#include <string>
using namespace std;

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {

    // similar to char s1[] = "CS 103"
    string s1("CS 103");

    // len will have 6
    int len = s1.size();

    // s2 will have "103"
    string s2 = s1.substr(3,3);

    // s3 will have "CS 103 is fun"
    string s3 = s1 + " is fun";

    // will print 'C'
    cout << s1[0] << endl;
    return 0;
}
```

## String and Ifstreams are Examples of Objects

```
ifstream myfile(argv[1]);

myfile.fail();

myfile >> x;
```

# String Examples

- Must:
  - #include <string>
  - using namespace std;
- Initializations / Assignment
  - Use **initialization constructor**
  - Use '=' operator
  - Can reassign and all memory allocation will be handled
- Redefines operators:
  - + (concatenate / append)
  - += (append)
  - ==, !=, >, <, <=, >= (comparison)
  - [] (access individual character)

```
#include <iostream>
#include <string>
using namespace std;

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    int len;
    string s1("CS 103");
    string s2 = "fun";
    s2 = "really fun";

    cout << s1 << " is " << s2 << endl;
    s2 = s2 + "!!!";
    cout << s2 << endl;
    string s3 = s1;
    if (s1 == s3){
        cout << s1 << " same as " << s3;
        cout << endl;
    }
    cout << "First letter is " << s1[0];
    cout << endl;
}
```

Output:

CS 103 is really fun  
really fun!!!  
CS 103 same as CS 103  
First letter is C

<http://www.cplusplus.com/reference/string/string/>

# More String Examples

- Size/Length of string
- Get C String (char \*) equiv.
- Find a substring
  - Searches for occurrence of a substring
  - Returns either the index where the substring starts or string::npos
  - std::npos is a constant meaning 'just beyond the end of the string'...it's a way of saying 'Not found'
- Get a substring
  - Pass it the start character index and the number of characters to copy
  - Returns a new string
- Others: replace, rfind, etc.

```
#include <iostream>
#include <string>
using namespace std;

int main(int argc, char *argv[]) {
    string s1("abc def");
    cout << "Len of s1: " << s1.size() << endl;

    char my_c_str[80];
    strcpy(my_c_str, s1.c_str());
    cout << my_c_str << endl;

    if(s1.find("bc d") != string::npos)
        cout << "Found bc_d starting at pos=" <<
            s1.find("bc_d") << endl;

    found = s1.find("def");
    if( found != string::npos){
        string s2 = s1.substr(found,3)
        cout << s2 << endl;
    }
}
```

Output:

Len of s1: 7  
abc def  
The string is: abc def  
Found bc\_d starting at pos=1  
def



# Exercises

- <http://bits.usc.edu/cs103/in-class-exercises/>
  - Palindrome
  - Circular Shift

Starting with data...

**STRUCTS**

# Definitions and Instances (Declarations)

- Objects must first be defined/declared (as a 'struct' or 'class')
  - The declaration is a blue print that indicates what any instance should look like
  - Identifies the overall name of the struct and its individual component types and names
  - The declaration does not actually create a variable
  - Usually appears outside any function
- Then any number of instances can be created/instantiated in your code
  - **Instances** are actual objects created from the definition (blueprint)
  - Declared like other variables

```
#include<iostream>

using namespace std;

// struct definition
struct pixel {
    unsigned char red;
    unsigned char green;
    unsigned char blue;
};
// 'pixel' is now a type
// just like 'int' is a type

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    int i,j;
    // instantiations
    pixel pixela;
    pixel image[256][256];
    // make pixela red
    pixela.red = 255;
    pixela.blue = pixela.green = 0;
    // make a green image
    for(i=0; i < 256; i++){
        for(j=0; j < 256; j++){
            image[i][j].green = 255;
            image[i][j].blue = 0;
            image[i][j].red = 0;
        }
    }
    return 0;
}
```

# Membership Operator (.)

- Each variable (and function) in an object definition is called a 'member' of the object (i.e. struct or class)
- When declaring an instance/variable of an object, we give the entire object a name, but the individual members are identified with the member names provided in the definition
- We use the . (dot/membership) operator to access that member in an instance of the object
  - Supply the name used in the definition above so that code is in the form:  
**instance\_name.member\_name**

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;

enum {CS, CECS};

struct student {
    char name[80];
    int id;
    int major;
};

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    int i,j;
    // instantiations
    student my_student;

    // setting values
    strncpy(my_student.name,"Tom Trojan",80);
    my_student.id = 1682942;
    my_student.major = CS;
    if(my_student.major == CECS)
        cout << "You like HW" << endl;
    else
        cout << "You like SW" << endl;

    ...
    return 0;
}
```

# Memory View of Objects

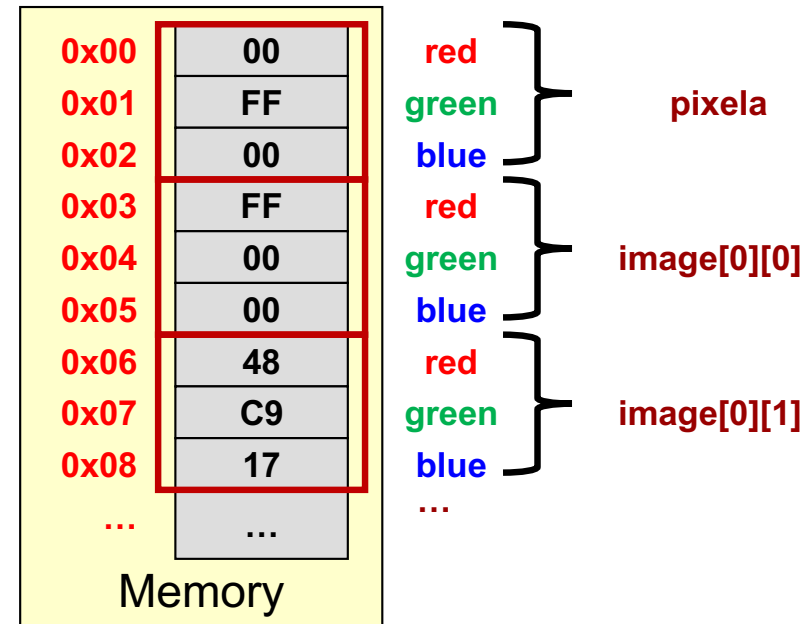
- Each instantiation allocates memory for all the members/components of the object (struct or class)

```
#include<iostream>

using namespace std;

struct pixel {
    unsigned char red;
    unsigned char green;
    unsigned char blue;
};

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    int i,j;
    // instantiations
    pixel pixela;
    pixel image[256][256];
    ...
    return 0;
}
```



# Memory View of Objects

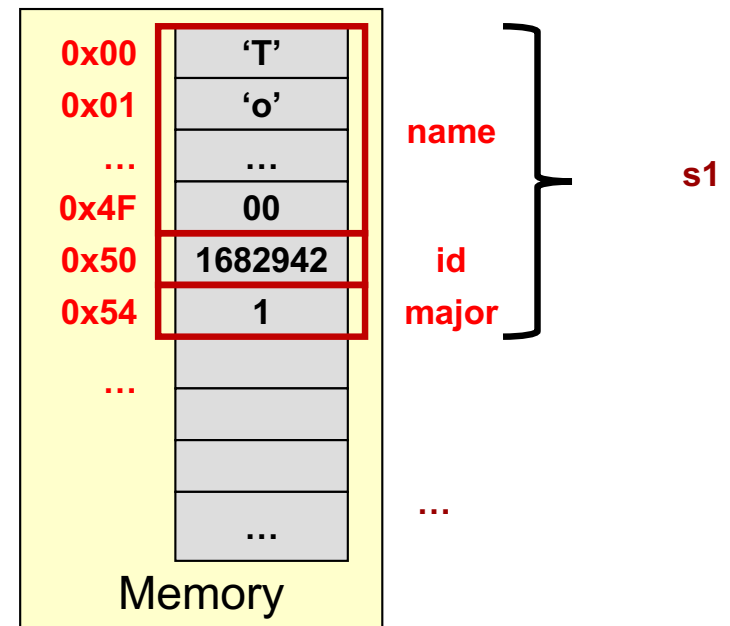
- Objects can have data members that are arrays or even other objects

```
#include<iostream>

using namespace std;

struct student {
    char name[80];
    int id;
    int major;
};

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    int i,j;
    // instantiations
    student s1;
    ...
    return 0;
}
```



Assignment semantics and pointers to objects

# IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT OBJECTS

# Object assignment

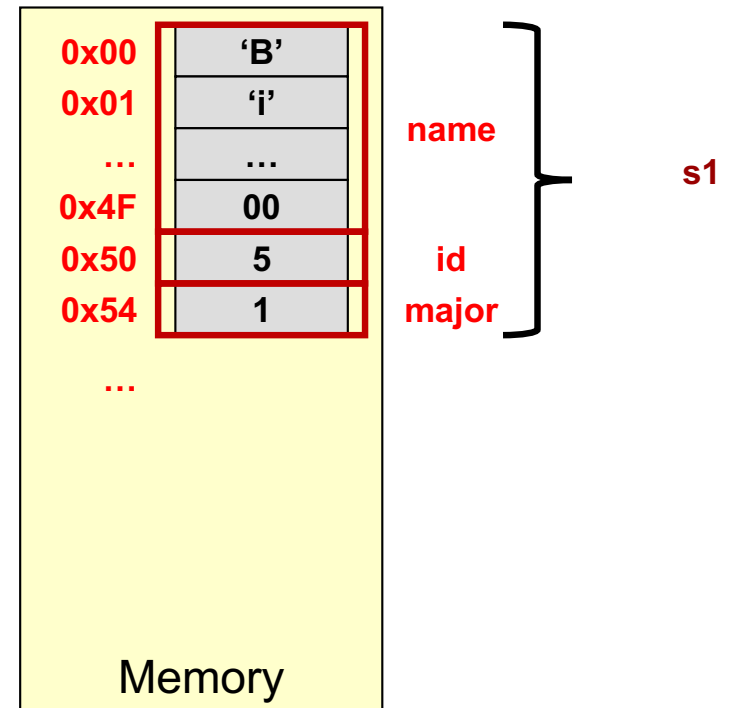
- Consider the following initialization of s1

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;

enum {CS, CECS};

struct student {
    char name[80];
    int id;
    int major;
};

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    student s1,s2;
    strncpy(s1.name,"Bill",80);
    s1.id = 5; s1.major = CECS;
```





# Object assignment

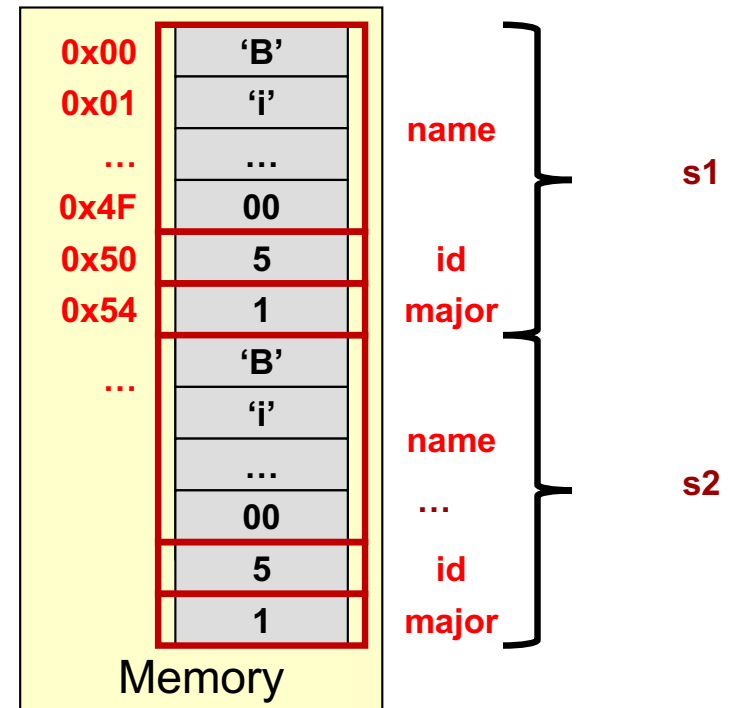
- Assigning one object to another will perform an element by element copy of the source struct to the destination object

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;

enum {CS, CECS };

struct student {
    char name[80];
    int id;
    int major;
};

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    student s1,s2;
    strncpy(s1.name,"Bill",80);
    s1.id = 5; s1.major = CECS;
    s2 = s1;
    return 0;
}
```



# Pointers to Objects

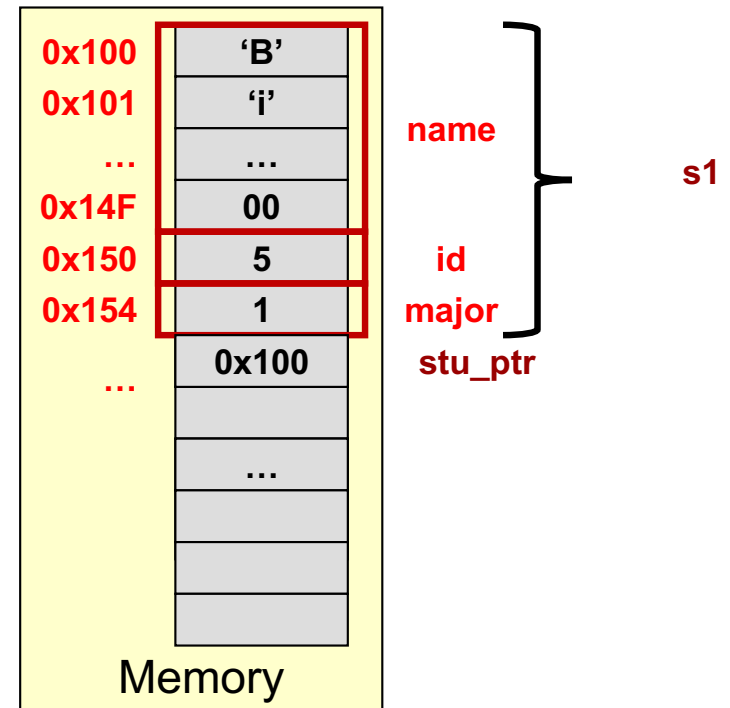
- We can declare pointers to objects just as any other variable

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;

enum {CS, CECS };

struct student {
    char name[80];
    int id;
    int major;
};

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    student s1, *stu_ptr;
    strncpy(s1.name, "Bill", 80);
    s1.id = 5; s1.major = CECS;
    stu_ptr = &s1;
    return 0;
}
```



# Accessing members from a Pointer

- Can dereference the pointer first then use the dot operator

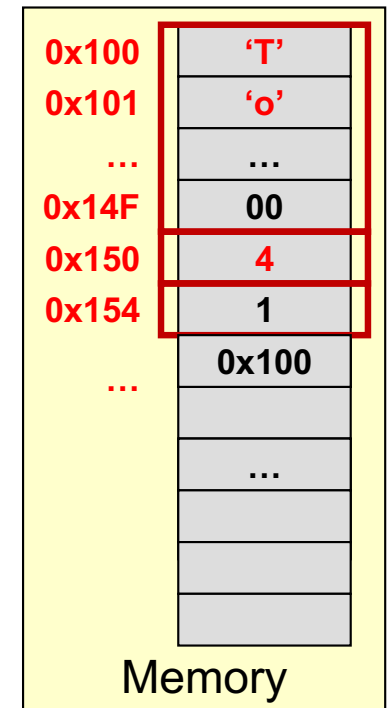
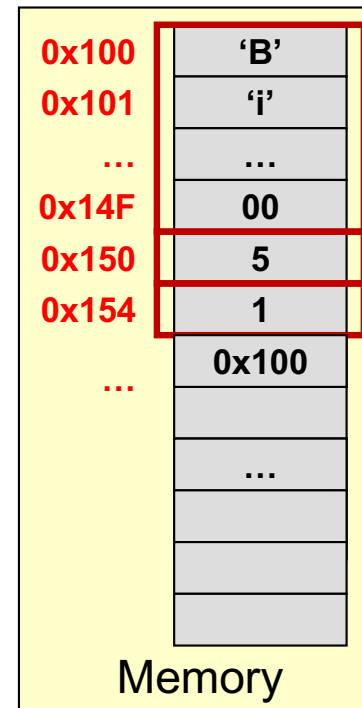
```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;

enum {CS, CECS };

struct student {
    char name[80];
    int id;
    int major;
};

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    student s1,*stu_ptr;
    strncpy(s1.name,"Bill",80);
    s1.id = 5; s1.major = CECS;
    stu_ptr = &s1;
    (*stu_ptr).id = 4;
    strncpy( (*stu_ptr).name, "Tom",80);

    return 0;
}
```



# Arrow (->) operator

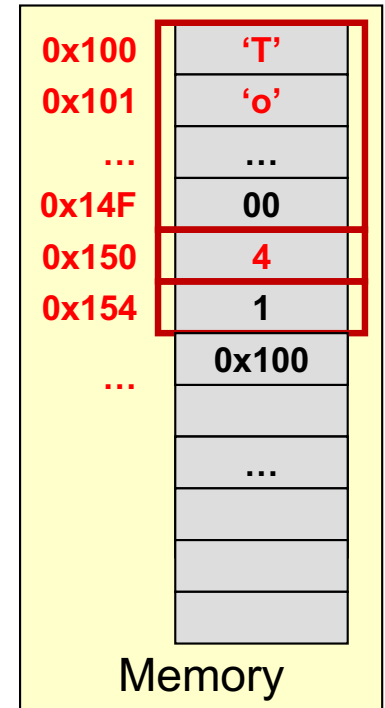
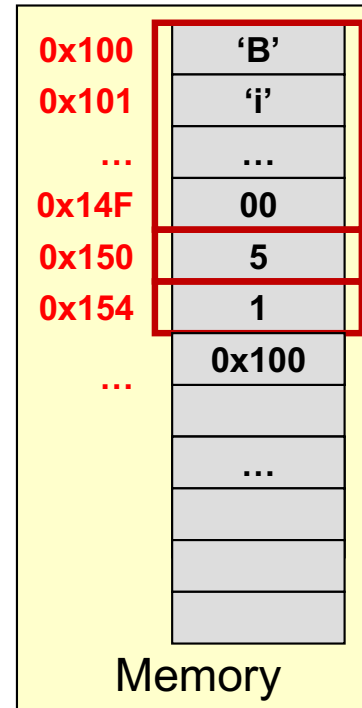
- Save keystrokes & have cleaner looking code by using the arrow (->) operator
  - `(*struct_ptr).member` equivalent to `struct_ptr->member`
  - Always of the form: `ptr_to_struct->member_name`

```
#include<iostream>
using namespace std;

enum {CS, CECS };

struct student {
    char name[80];
    int id;
    int major;
};

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    student s1,*stu_ptr;
    strncpy(s1.name,"Bill",80);
    s1.id = 5; s1.major = CECS;
    stu_ptr = &s1;
    stu_ptr->id = 4;
    strncpy( stu_ptr->name, "Tom",80);
    ...
    return 0;
}
```



# Passing Objects as Arguments

- In C, arguments must be a single value [i.e. a single data object / can't pass an entire array of data, instead pass a pointer]
- Objects are the exception...you can pass an entire struct 'by value'
  - Will make a copy of the struct and pass it to the function
- Of course, you can always pass a pointer [especially for big objects since pass by value means making a copy of a large objects]

```
#include<iostream>

using namespace std;

struct Point {
    int x;
    int y;
};

void print_point(Point myp)
{
    cout << "(x,y)=" << myp.x << "," << myp.y;
    cout << endl;
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    Point p1;
    p1.x = 2; p1.y = 5;
    print_point(p1);
    return 0;
}
```

# Returning Objects

- Can only return a single struct from a function [i.e. not an array of objects]
- Will return a **copy** of the struct indicated
  - i.e. 'return-by-value'

```
#include<iostream>

using namespace std;
struct Point {
    int x;
    int y;
};

void print_point(Point *myp)
{
    cout << "(x,y)=" << myp->x << "," << myp->y;
    cout << endl;
}

Point make_point()
{
    Point temp;
    temp.x = 3; temp.y = -1;
    return temp;
}

int main(int argc, char *argv[])
{
    Point p1;
    p1 = make_point();
    print_point(&p1);
    return 0;
}
```

# ENUMERATIONS

# Enumerations

- Associates an integer (number) with a symbolic name
- `enum [optional_collection_name]`  
`{Item1, Item2, ... ItemN}`
  - `Item1 = 0`
  - `Item2 = 1`
  - ...
  - `ItemN = N-1`
- Use symbolic item names in your code and compiler will replace the symbolic names with corresponding integer values

```
const int BLACK=0;
const int BROWN=1;
const int RED=2;

const int WHITE=7;

int pixela = RED;
int pixelb = BROWN;
...
```

**Hard coding symbolic names with given codes**

```
// First enum item is associated with 0
enum Colors {BLACK,BROWN,RED,...,WHITE};

int pixela = RED;    // pixela = 2;
int pixelb = BROWN; // pixelb = 1;
```

**Using enumeration to simplify**



Aliases for a type name

# **TYPDEF'S**

# typedef's

- Often we do not want to always type so much to declare an instance of a struct
- typedefs allow us to create an 'alias' for a data-type.
- Format:  
`typedef official_type alias_name`
- Examples:  
`typedef int score_t;`  
`typedef double decimal_t;`  
`// x is really an int, y is really a double`  
`score_t x; decimal_t y;`
- Can be used to make the use of variables more obvious
  - Imagine you had a few int's being used as scores and many other ints elsewhere...then you have to change all score variables to doubles. You can't just find..replace all ints to doubles.